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# BEE JOURNAL



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## Migratory Bee-Keeping in the South.

BY A. F. BROWN.

I am asked by the editor to give a few items on the above subject, touching especially upon the small details connected with such line—those brought out in the everyday life of one following the production of paying crops of honey by moving the colonies from place to place as seasons and blossoms offer inducements.

The subject is well worthy the attention and careful consideration of every thoughtful honey-producer, especially to those who live in localities that are more or less uncertain, and at the same time are within reach by a short move of some locality that furnishes a surplus from some other source, or at a different season of the year than at the home location.

My experience in migratory bee-keeping covers about five years' active work in moving from 150 to 250 colonies, three or four times each year, and covering distances of from 20 to 200 miles at each move. Most of my moves were of distances of 50 to 150 miles.

In this State (Florida) there are several classes of soils, the timber growth and flora of each being quite distinct. In some the surplus honey-flow comes early in the spring, in others it may be a couple of months later, or at midsummer, and still others in the fall or midwinter, consequently to one informed on the localities it becomes quite apparent that by being in position to move from one locality to another makes the success of securing a crop just so much more sure.

With the exception of a very few short moves, I have used the railroads, and places accessible by water transportation, for all of my movings. In going long distances I prefer the railroad, for the saving of time, as well as expenses. For distances under 25 miles I have found teams the most satisfactory. Transportation by water on boats disturbs the bees the least of all, yet the actual gain therefrom is small.

After the colonies are once properly packed and ready for a move, the greatest point of success lies in getting them to their destination and opened out for a "flight" at the earliest moment possible. In my experience I have found colonies to stand three or four days' bumping and jolting over roads and railroads better than they withstand a week's confinement on board a "lighter" towed by a steam tug-boat. I find it is the

long confinement that tells on the vitality of the bees. Colonies given plenty of room, plenty of ventilation, and space to cluster off from (and away from) the combs of brood, with ample provision of honey and water, will stand transportation during our hottest weather by hauling with teams or on railroads, providing you do not keep them confined more than four or five days. I endeavor to accomplish my moves in a space not exceeding three days' confinement for the bees, and only once have I lost any number of colonies. In fact, I seldom lose any colonies. A few old bees in nearly all colonies will die, but I think it is only about the actual number that die each day when in their normal condition.

Covering about 20 moves in five years, I have never kept bees more than three or four months at a time in one locality, generally about two months, and I was off for some other pasture, frequently 150 or 200 miles distant.

When I first commenced moving bees, I knew very little of the requirements for success. My first heavy losses were from loss of unsealed brood. To overcome this I found water almost an absolute necessity. Give each colony two combs (about two quarts) of water placed next the sides of the hive, and the loss of brood will be greatly lessened. To fill the combs with water, lay them in the bottom of a tub or barrel (barrel is best), and pour water from a dipper held three feet above. When one side is full turn it over and fill the reverse side. One Langstroth frame will hold about a quart of water.

Ample ventilation is another big item in successful moving of bees. I find a rim three inches deep, the same size as hive, covered with wire-cloth, the proper thing. Put one of these on the bottom and one on the top, and securely fasten. I have tried many kinds of fastenings, and find common place laths cut the right length to reach from the bottom screen to the top one, four to each hive, one nailed at each corner, is the simplest and best—the most secure method of fastening screens and hive bodies solid.

In the front end of half of the screens have a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hole bored. This allows an entrance for the bees, and you can put on the screens several days in advance of the day of moving, and when all is ready to move, a cork or plug fastens the entrance-hole.

Frames should be securely fastened in the hives, so they will not slide together or swing. As I use, and have used for years, the Hoffman style of frame, which is, as most are aware, self-spacing, I have no bother about this item.

In the few instances when I have had occasion to move colonies in loose-hanging-frame hives, I have fastened them securely by means of two small slats nailed one at each end on top of the end-bars down through and into the ends of the hive, then tip the hive up on its end, and stuff old newspapers in the bee-space between the end of the frames and the end of the hive. This fastens them securely.

If colonies have more than 20 or 25 pounds of honey in

their combs, extract it, or enough to leave only this amount, for heavy combs of honey are liable to be jarred loose and be broken down.

The upper story of extracting-combs are left on, but all surplus arrangements in connection with comb honey should be removed, or the bees will "stain" them badly, and render unsightly for future use. Also, their clustering on the foundation starters will generally result in that coming down, and being lost, with the need of putting more in to take its place.

In loading bees in cars (try always to secure cattle cars) you need a number of 1x2 inch strips to lay several on the floor to raise the first tier of hives off from the floor, to allow ventilation; then lay more on top of the tier to raise the second tier, and thus all the way throughout the car.

I find that 250 colonies in two-story hives make a very comfortable carload, the more can be put in if care is used. Be sure the end ventilators of the car are open, and then leave the doors wide open so that when the train is in motion a strong current of air rushes through and among the bees. If the car has ventilators on top, turn the "hood" so as to carry a current of air down into the car, and thus help to keep things cool. But whenever possible secure open cattle cars, for these are the finest self-ventilators out. It should be needless to say, yet it is well worth repeating, to load all colonies on cars with combs running lengthwise of the car, parallel with the iron rails of the track, never crosswise. In hauling on wagons load, where practical, so the combs stand crosswise of the wagon and road. I have used common, heavy farm wagons without springs, and in all my hauling, of hundreds of colonies, from a few hundred yards to 20 miles, I have seldom had a comb to break down—certainly not one out of five hundred—and I have traveled over some very rough roads; but, as I have said above, my combs are principally in Hoffman frames, and most have three horizontal wires to the frame.

When arriving at the destination open the hives as soon as possible, so the bees can have a flight. If there is honey coming in the bees will be at work within an hour—in fact, in less time, frequently.

To one moving around all over the country, a model, systematically arranged apiary is a thing not likely to be kept up long. When we can secure a field or open spot, order can be observed in arrangements; still, I have found most of my locations were in the woods, and the hives were scattered around about as they would happen to be shot out of a cannon, the hive-entrances facing every point of the compass.

As soon as possible after getting the hives placed and opened, I set each hive up on a couple of sticks of stovewood; this raises them about four inches from the ground, and is all the hive-stand I ever use nowadays. Two or three seasons I dispensed with alighting-boards, using the screen as a bottom-board, or removing it entirely and allowing the bees free access to come and go from the whole bottom of the hives.

Half way up on the front of the hives I had two 1½-inch auger holes bored, one above the other, with a 1¼-inch space between them. At the center of this space was screwed a button 1¼ inches wide and ¾ inches long; by turning it the size of the entrances was enlarged the full width, or closed to only a single bee-space. These I found to be fine entrances, and the bees preferred them to the bottom entrance. I had 200 colonies arranged thus, and I liked the arrangement very much indeed. My hives at that time were all the 8-frame size, but now I would prefer for a general purpose hive the 10-frame size. In honey-flows I used the 8-frame size tiered three high. The big colonies gave good results, and I then made and put into use 50 16-frame hives, with the upper story in two parts of 8 frames each. In fact, I used 8-frame bodies for the upper stories. These hives I gave the name of "Jumbo." They have proved "Jumbo" in more than one

way. With two queens in the lower story and 16 extracting combs above, one gets "a right smart bit" (as our Florida Crackers express it) of honey from one single colony. For extracted honey these "Jumbo" hives have many advantages, but are rather cumbersome for the "migrator."

For comb honey a hive that is shallow and square rather than oblong, and capable of expansion and contraction, is the hive of all hives. Then use the Capt. Hetherington tall section, and large yields of comb honey can be produced.

But comb honey cannot be produced to advantage by a man following migratory bee-keeping, his business lies solely in extracted honey. The 10-frame two-story Langstroth hive is the hive he will find the most advantageous. Outside of his hives and screens, his only tools needed are two or three tents, a good extractor, a couple of honey-knives, and two or three good smokers. Let the thousand and one odd traps "stop home." His handiest honey-package is a barrel. One of these with a screen half way up inside, and a 1x1 inch bar of wood across the top will make his uncapping-can. A small solar wax-extractor might be carried, but what is more practical in the line of his business is a square, double-tank galvanized-iron boiler. I have one 14 inches wide, 20 inches deep, and 30 inches long inside the tank; a little smaller at the bottom than at the top. There is a one-inch space between the two at the bottom. They cost about \$5.00, one is worth a dozen solar extractors where there is any amount of wax to render. Have two or three pails of water in the outside tank, and the same in the inside one. Then put in the comb and keep adding more. When thoroughly melted, let stand till cool, then turn out the cake of wax, scrape off the residues on the bottom, and it is ready for market.

Volusia Co., Fla.



### That "Detestable Bee-Space" Again.

BY C. E. MEAD.

But few have tried closed-end frames, and sealed tops tight down on top of the frames, or compared the wintering and springing results of closed-end and tops, and log and box hives, with the hanging frame that allows a free circulation of air both around the ends and over the tops of the frames. Why is it that so many practical apiarists advise closing the bees, by the use of two tight division-boards, to the exact number of spaces the bees actually occupy between the combs, and covering the frames on top tightly? To economize the heat, enable them to keep warmer, and to breed up faster in spring.

I have long practiced wintering bees in hives two stories high, packing in September. The top story contains three frames of solid sealed honey, and one of brood, with the queen on that frame. The brood is in the lower story under these four frames; the balance of the lower story filled out with light or partly-filled frames. I put ¼-inch boards over the two outside frames in the lower hive. The top hive has the four frames in the center of the hive, and two tight division-boards close to the frames of honey. I cover the four frames in the top hive with a ¼-inch board tight on the tops of the frames; fill the space between the division-boards and sides of the hive with sawdust; put on another body (or two empty supers) and fill in 8 inches of sawdust on top of the second story; put on a board cover with ½ inch sticks clear across under the cover, to let the packing dry out; then screw a board on the back of the three hive bodies, with paper underneath, and you can winter nuclei and have them strong for white clover.

In the southern part of the United States they do not have the "wintering problem," but do have plenty of propolis, and the separate frames, not touching end-bars, and hardly the top-bars, will be most practical and easy to handle. It takes no honor or glory from the keen perception, inventive



and mechanical genius and scholarly attainments of Father Langstroth, if climatic severities compel us to adopt the Quinby principle in the frame hive.

Now, in a log or box hive all the combs are fastened to the top of the hive and sides, nearly to the bottom. Each comb acts as a division; the bees have only to keep the spaces warm that they occupy. I have tipped them back and found the piles of brown dust between the occupied spaces (indicating breeding and pollen consumption), and ice in the corners of the hives. They beat my hanging-frame hives in wintering. I have bought lots of hives where some of the old logs did not have bees to fill one-half of two spaces, and they would breed up so as to be ready for clover when transferred. I have been disgusted to see colonies of more than twice their size in loose and hanging frame hives dwindle away to nothing.

Now, what is the sensible conclusion? When the heat escapes over the tops of the frames and around the narrow ends, the bees must keep the whole hive warm to be comfortable. A small colony with this style of frame cannot do it. A large colony with old bees will exhaust their vitality and dwindle away, unless the hive is well protected by packing. With closed-end frames and tight top a quart of bees can breed up. A cold snap will not chill their brood. Ten bees will care for an inch square of brood in a box or log, or closed end and top frame hives. One inch of brood will average 50 bees, so they will increase in a geometrical ratio of 5 every 21 days, and more than that, after the first three crops of young bees. Now bees begin to breed in February, often earlier. March 1 you have many old and a few young bees; March 21 the old bees are dying fast, and your young bees are hatching equally fast, if in a box or tight frame hive. April 10 your bees are five times as strong, and nearly all young bees. May 11 they are 5x5, or 25 times as strong, and are ready for fruit and dandelion bloom.

I am so thoroughly convinced that the closed-end frame with tight top cover and deep hive is right for our climate, that I am going to adopt it. Cook Co., Ill.



### Rearing Brood in Winter—Paralysis, Etc.

BY THOS. THURLOW.

Since I wrote my last, I have had considerable experience in bee-matters that has been very interesting to me, and may be of some interest to the readers of the Bee Journal.

**WINTER BROOD-REARING.**—There was no surplus honey in this vicinity last year, and fall came with very little honey in the hives, and, naturally, none too many bees; but I thought I would try to make them go through the winter, dividing what honey they had amongst them by keeping a sharp watch of them. So when the queens ceased laying, each one of 22 colonies was contracted to six Langstroth frames, standing on end in an inside case and packed between the case and two 10-frame bodies with ground cork, then a section-case on top with a cork cushion in it. There was not more than an average of 8 or 10 pounds of honey for each of them to winter on, and they were left to themselves until Feb. 16, 1897, when, after a violent two days' snow-storm, I had a chance to look at them—it was warm enough for them to fly a little. All were in the top of the frames against the cushion, and two colonies were dead—starved to death with honey below them. I saw that the rest must be fed—just as I expected to do when they were packed in the fall.

Shallow tin pans were made to set on the top of the frames; and wood covers for the inside case, of  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch thick stuff with a  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch hole, covered with wire-cloth in the middle; and five ounces of sugar syrup (one pound of sugar to one pound of water), as hot as I could bear my finger in, was poured through the wire screen into the tin pan every night,

just as late as I could see to do it, until about March 20, when there was another chance to look and see what they were doing. It was a disappointment; my expectations were to see brood-rearing going on extensively, but only a few had capt brood at all, and most of them only eggs. Instead of rearing brood they had stored the food in the tops of the combs, and even lengthened out the cells with new wax to do it. Still, feeding was kept up until the apricot bloom, about three ounces a day.

The utmost care was used not to jar the hives or to disturb the bees in the least—the covers came off easily, and the cushions were turned back just far enough to pour the food through the wire screen. After the first few days, it was amusing to see them boil over into the shallow pan and on the under side of the screen, and lap the liquid as it came in. I certainly thought that meant brood, but it didn't, the egg-layer wasn't in it. My conclusion was this: *It's folly to feed bees to induce brood-rearing in the winter months.*

The last spring was a good one for bees, and they bred up fast after the weather began to get warm. There was more honey gathered from fruit-bloom than I ever knew of before, and June came in with white clover in full bloom, but there was not more than enough honey in it to keep up brood-rearing until about the 20th, when the nights got warm and honey came in with a rush, and also fearfully hot, dry weather, so that the clover was burnt brown as a walnut by July 3. I never saw it go so quick in my life. Since then there have been heavy rains, and white clover has revived and is blooming yet (Sept. 16), but not enough to do much good. The past wet weather has given the fall flowers a splendid start, and the bees are working with a vim, and I may get some dark honey yet—what a lot of *butts* a bee-keeper has to use here to cover "blasted hopes!"

**BEE PARALYSIS.**—The Florida man is on the right track to cure it. Several years ago a case of it occurred in one of my colonies, and, after trying salt and sulphur without any results, I killed the queen, and the next day gave a frame of brood with the adhering bees and capt queen-cells, and in a few weeks the disease was gone. This year one of my colonies got it bad, so bad that the swollen bees got in under the ends of the frames on the tin rabbets and died there. The queen was killed, and a frame of brood and bees with capt queen-cells given them, and in a few weeks the disease was gone. It seems to me that the disease is in the queen, and is inherited by some of the young, as I took notice that all the swollen and dying bees were young bees that had probably never been out of the hive, at least I could not find any frayed wings amongst them; and I will give a guess at the cause of the disease: It is a weak constitution, caused by in-breeding to keep the stock pure and get as yellow bees as possible; and that accounts for the disease being more prevalent now than in former years, when the black bees were in the majority, and there was more crossing than now.

**HIVES FOR WINTER.**—For the last three winters my bees have wintered on five or six Langstroth frames, standing on end and packed around with ground cork. They winter perfectly in that shape, consume very little food, and very few die; but there are several objections to that plan, one is the extra amount of work in changing the frames from one position to the other twice a year, and another, the most serious one, some of the best have to be changed to give more room before the weather is warm enough. So I have built 10 hives on an entirely new plan: The brood department is a cube inside of about the capacity of nine Langstroth frames, and is made of two parts horizontally (it is not the Heddon plan); the frames are placed in the body in such a manner that there are no outside frames (for a bunch of bees to starve and freeze on through inability to get into the cluster), that is, the clus-

ter can expand or contract as the weather changes, without a bee having to go over, under, or around a frame; and if there is anything in this hive, this is the main point.

The extracting surplus case is just the same as one of the halves of the brood department. The frames are interchangeable, and are  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches from the floor, but the bees can get on them without going to the sides or the back end. The body can be reversed bottom up without disturbing a bee, and is just the same either way. The frames are self-spacing, but not the Hoffman, for, like B. F. Lewis, on page 565, "I want no more Hoffman frames in mine." The body can be turned either side to the front, it comes just the same. One of the halves of the body, or a surplus extracting-case, can be used to put a swarm in as a contractor. But the proof of the pudding is in the eating of it. This time next year I can tell how good or how bad it is, and I will let you know, if we are both still alive.

Lancaster Co., Pa.



### Honey-Production on the Island of Cuba.

BY O. O. POPPLETON.

On first page of the Bee Journal for Oct. 21, Mr. Muth in reply to a question from "California," gives some figures in regard to Cuban honey, and the duty on the same, and suggests that I give some more light on the subject.

I judge from what I could learn in Cuba, and since, that, as honey-producing countries, Cuba and California are about even. Conditions of honey-flow are very different in the two countries, but it would be hard to judge which could produce the larger gross amount of honey during a series of years. Labor is cheap. When I was there wages for good, first-class farm-hands averaged about \$8.00 per month, and board, or 40 cents a day. I paid a hand for help in the apiary the above wages, and he was a good hand, too. He did nearly all the work of uncapping and extracting our crop of 26 tons, and considerable other work also. During the height of the season he did all the work with knife and extractor, usually taking out, when working all day, from 1,500 to 2,000 pounds.

Freight charges were very low. This 52,000-pound crop costs us 15 cents per hundred weight net, from Havana to New York, with an addition of a small lighterage charge in Havana. It costs me 85 cents per hundred weight gross to ship my honey from here to New York, and I cannot get as good a hand as I had in Cuba, for less than about \$25 per month, and board.

Cuba exacts an export duty of 6 cents per gallon, and our country an import duty of 20 cents, making a total of about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound.

The bulk of the Cuban honey crop is produced by native apiarists, who use sections of the hollow trunk of the royal palm. These are long, from four to six feet, laid down on the side, one end entirely open, the other closed with a board. The brood is usually in a compact shape, leaving most of the "hive" to be occupied with honey quite free from brood. Whenever the hive is full, the honey is removed, comb and all, masht, strained, and the wax rendered out. The implements used are tubs, cloth strainers, kettles, a long knife or machete, and an iron rod, one end bent into a hook. It will very readily be seen that from the small investments in skill, capital and labor, honey can be produced very cheaply in a country with such honey-resources as Cuba has; and that, unless there is some drawback that we don't have, they can furnish honey in our seaboard markets much cheaper than we can afford to produce it. This drawback is the duty, or rather duties, amounting to about  $2\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound, and partly makes up for the extra prices we have to pay for freight and labor. As Mr. Muth says, "Take off the duty, and we would have to put up with Chinaman's fare, or quit the business."

### LESS STORING AFTER EXTRACTING—WINTER PASSAGES.

On page 661, Mr. J. F. McIntyre is quoted as saying, "He always found that bees stored less for a day or two after extracting." I think Mr. McIntyre is right. More than this, I have found that bees do not store more honey when hives are full of nearly or quite empty combs than they do when combs are nearly full of honey, provided they are not actually crowded for room. The reverse of this has been, and I think still is, the almost or quite universally accepted idea.

On the same page is an item on the importance of winter-passages in combs, in out-door wintering. I am a strong believer in the necessity of such passages, and had a very cheap, easy method of making such passages so late in the fall that they would not be closed up. I will not give the method, as it cannot be easily used with 8 or 10 frame hives. With such hives, Hill's device, or something similar, will partly, but not altogether, answer the same purpose.

Dade Co., Fla.



### Comb Foundation—Is its Use Profitable?

BY "SAGE BRUSH."

I was very much interested in the article on the above subject, on page 579, by Mr. S. A. Deacon. Is the use of comb foundation profitable when used in large quantities? I say no. I have been experimenting on that line, and in giving the results I wish the reader to keep in view the fact that I conducted the experiments in Southern California, in a locality not particularly noted for its honey-yield, but we have the sage and buckwheat on one side, and a large fruit district, in which there are plenty of gum and pepper trees, on the other side of our apiary. Our bees gather honey more or less all the year, thus making it possible to succeed better in such experiments than others who were in as good or better honey district, but without the gums, peppers, and fruit-trees to keep up some little flow of honey through the fall, winter and early spring.

Some years ago I was asked to look over some bees for a neighbor. I found they had been allowed to swarm themselves to death, thus letting the moth get a good start. I fixed up some of them, but a few were so full of moth-worms that the owner asked me to take them, returning the hives and frames to him later. When I got them home I found I could not get any comb foundation, so I took a frame of brood for each from the colonies, and putting it in a new hive brushed the little colonies out of the moth-eaten hives into them, giving each from one to two frames, having narrow starters of foundation. They at once commenced to build nice worker-comb. I added empty frames as needed until each had from five to six frames filled with comb and brood. I then took frames from one-half the hives to fill the other half, giving empty frames as before, until in a short time I had the lot ready for the extracting supers. I was so surprised at the result I concluded to try it further.

The following winter I bought out a small apiary. About the time they commenced to breed up I went through them, taking out all the drone-comb from the brood-chambers. Running short of worker-combs, I took what I needed from the most backward colonies, and filled those that were strong. That left me with a number of colonies of three frames each, fairly well filled with brood. I set these to the side of the hive, put in a board, and in a few days they needed more room. I then gave each an empty frame, and they at once commenced to build nice worker-comb, and filled it with brood as fast as built. I added frames as required until they had about six frames each of brood. I then took frames enough from one-half to fill the other half, until in a very short time I had them all ready for the supers, and was very much sur-



prised to find they were the best honey-producers I had, and gave me a larger average than any in the yard.

When the swarming season came (we don't have many swarms, say from 15 to 20 from 100 colonies) I hived the new swarm on the old stand, and in four days I set the extracting super on the new swarm, put the parent colony in another part of the yard, where I had a row of them; then I took all the frames, except three, away from them, leaving those having the most brood and a queen-cell. About the time the young queens commenced laying, I gave each an empty frame. Of course they built nice worker-comb, and did it in such a short time I soon had the extracting supers on the lot, and got two good extractings from them the same season.

Then after the honey or extracting season was over, I took all the frames, except three, from a number of colonies, and started them in to build worker-comb, and kept it up until I had all the combs I needed. Then when I set the extracting supers back on those hives, I found them in the best condition of any colonies in the yard.

About this time I became so confident in the success of my experiments that I ventured to tell it to others, but was somewhat surprised to find they could not see it in the light I did. One said:

"No doubt you will get nice work-comb in that way, but see what it costs! For my part, I run my bees to make money, and could not afford to have my bees build combs in the way you suggest."

Now I knew this party claimed he had a better locality than mine for honey; I also knew his average yield was much less than mine, so he did not convince me that I was wrong. Now, along comes Mr. Deacon with his very interesting article. I feel so pleased to know that there is at least one who thinks as I do on this subject.

If you can find a place in the Bee Journal for this report, I may some day write about other experiments I am making on another line connected with our interesting pursuit.

San Bernardino Co., Calif.



### Members' Reports of the Illinois Association.

[The first week in October Secretary Jas. A. Stone, of the Illinois State Bee-Keepers' Association, mailed these questions to the members, which have since been answered as shown below:—EDITOR.]

1. How many colonies have you?
2. What are the prospects for a honey crop?
3. How much gathered to date?
4. Is the honey gathered No. 1 or not?

M. M. Baldridge, Kane Co.—1, 30. 2. When? None at all. 3. Cannot state for the purpose wanted. 4. Very good indeed.

A. Y. Baldwin, DeKalb Co.—1, 70, spring count; now, 85. 2. Good. 3. Something over 7,000 lbs. 4. All No. 1, and fine at that.

C. Becker, Sangamon Co.—1, None. 2. No good. 3. 3,500 lbs. 4. Yes.

S. N. Black, Adams Co.—1, 8 in spring; 29 in fall. 2. Honey crop over. 3. 400 lbs. of comb honey. 4.  $\frac{1}{4}$  white clover;  $\frac{3}{4}$  fall honey.

W. B. Blume, Cook Co.—1, 44, spring count. 2. Good. 3. 2,970 lbs. 4. Most No. 1.

W. S. Chaney, Jefferson Co.—1, 50 after uniting. 2. Bad for another year. 3. 1,000 lbs. of comb honey and 700 of extracted. 4. Yes.

Stoughton Cooley, Cook Co.—1, 11. 3. 400 lbs. 4. No. 1.

S. H. Herrick, Winnebago Co.—1, 28. 3. About 1,100 lbs. 4. All No. 1 except unfinished sections.

L. Kreutzinger, Cook Co.—1, 140 now; 100, spring count. 2. Has been fair. 3. About 5,000 lbs. of comb honey. 4. Three-fifths No. 1; balance dark or No. 2.

W. C. Lyman, DuPage Co.—1, 80. 2. All gathered. 3. About 2,000 lbs. 4. Nearly all No. 1.

C. E. Mead, Cook Co.—1, 4 colonies and 7 nuclei. 2, 250 lbs. of extracted; 55 of comb. None since Aug. 15. North-east winds. 4. All No. 1 white, from clover, thistle and white sweet clover.

G. R. McCartney, Winnebago Co.—1, 16. 2. No more honey this year. 3. 300 lbs. 4. Yes, No. 1.

Dr. C. C. Miller, McHenry Co.—1, 295. 3. Not far from 17,000 lbs. 4. The very finest.

Jas. Poindexter, McLean Co.—1, About 160. 2. Ended. 3. About 4,500 lbs. of comb honey, and 500 of extracted. 4. No. 1.

A. P. Raught, Lake Co.—1, 16. 3. 370 lbs. 4. About half No. 1.

E. F. Schaper, Porter Co., Ind.—1, 90 to 100. 2. None after this, this year. 3. 2,000 lbs. and over. 4. Good quality.

C. Schrier, Will Co.—1, 16, spring count; 22 now. 2. Season is over. 3. 940 lbs. 4. Yes.

L. Sylvester, Kane Co.—1, 35 now; 17, spring count. 3. 1,300 lbs. of comb honey, and 450 of extracted. 4. All white and sweet clover.

Geo. Thompson, Kane Co.—1, 17. 3. Comb, 400 lbs.; extracted, 800 lbs. 4. No. 1.

J. C. Wheeler, Kendall Co.—1, 458. 2. Last 6 weeks of drouth has killed clover. 3. 9 tons of extracted; 3 tons of comb honey. 4. Good.

G. W. Williams, Brown Co.—1, I have 20; have sold off some. 2. It has been very good. 3. I think between 1,500 1,600. 4. Some No. 1.

**Honey as Food** is the name of a 24-page pamphlet,  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 6\frac{1}{4}$  inches, which we are now printing for general distribution among those who should be users of honey. It is just the thing for bee-keepers to hand to every one of their customers, and also to those whom they would like to have as customers. It is very handy in size—just right to go into an ordinary business envelope. It contains 12 illustrations, five of which are somewhat comic, and help to make it attractive. There is a blank space for your name and address. About  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the pamphlet was written by Dr. Miller, and then we added thereto many new and valuable honey recipes—for cooking and for medicinal purposes. In all, it makes a neat little pamphlet. Send name and address and we will mail you a sample of "Honey as Food."

Prices for quantities, postpaid—25 for 30 cents; 50 for 50 cents; 100 for 85 cents; 200 for \$1.40. By express, not prepaid, 500 for \$3.00; 1,000, \$5.00.

Now let the orders come in, and we will do our best to fill them promptly. Remember, a sample copy is mailed free.

**A New Binder** for holding a year's numbers of the American Bee Journal, we propose to mail, postpaid, to every subscriber who sends us 20 cents. It is called "The Wood Binder," is patented, and is an entirely new and very simple arrangement. Full printed directions accompany each Binder. Every reader should get it, and preserve the copies of the Bee Journal as fast as they are received. They are invaluable for reference, and at the low price of the Binder you can afford to get it yearly.

**The Names and Addresses** of all your bee-friends, who are not now taking the Bee Journal, are wanted at this office. Send them in, please, when sample copies will be mailed to them. Then you can secure their subscriptions, and earn some of the premiums we are offering. The next few months will be just the time to easily get new subscribers. Try it earnestly, at least.

**Every Present Subscriber** of the Bee Journal should be an agent for it, and get all others possible to subscribe for it. See offers on page 718.

# Questions AND Answers

CONDUCTED BY

DR. C. C. MILLER, MARENGO, ILL.

[Questions may be mailed to the Bee Journal, or to Dr. Miller direct.]

## Cutting Down the Langstroth Frame.

1. Would it be wise to cut the Langstroth frame down to a smaller size, and leave it still self-spacing?
2. Are there not too many sizes of frames now?
3. The Langstroth frame is so large that there are few good frames with comb full down to the bottom-bar. The smaller the frame the nicer they are. LOS ANGELES.

ANSWERS.—1 and 3. Probably you wouldn't be any better satisfied to cut down the frame. If you made it only half its present size, you would very likely find that the bees wouldn't build the combs down to the bottom-bar without having foundation come clear down, and if foundation comes clear to the bottom-bar of course the present size will have the combs built down.

2. On some accounts it would be a very nice thing to have only one size of frame, but this is a pretty big country, and it's somewhat doubtful if all will agree to use the same frame.

## Transferring Before or After Swarming.

1. I have 3 or 4 colonies of bees in boxes which I wish to transfer next spring to movable-frame hives. Will it be proper to get a swarm from each and transfer afterwards, or transfer before they swarm?

2. If it is proper to let them swarm first, how long afterwards should I wait before transferring, the weather being suitable? MISSOURI.

ANSWERS.—1. I think I'd let them swarm and hive the swarm in a movable-frame hive.

2. Then in three weeks I'd transfer the contents of the old hive to another movable-frame hive, because at the end of three weeks all the old brood will be hatched out and will not be in the way.

Keep watch of this department from week to week, and very likely you'll get hold of some hints that will be of use to you in the matter.

## Fall and Spring Price of Bees.

What is customary amongst bee-keepers in selling a colony of bees in the fall, in regard to food supply of the same? I notice that dealers who charge \$10 a colony in spring offer the same for \$6 in the fall. Now, if they are situated where honey commands a good price, and supply a colony with 20 pounds or more of honey, at the fall price, it seems as if they must be out of pocket. Please enlighten. INQUIRER.

ANSWER.—The amount of honey in the hive really cuts no figure. If a dealer sells a colony in the fall, it has 20 pounds or more of honey, and if he sells the same colony in the spring, altho the honey may not be visible in the hive he is out of pocket the same amount of honey, for the bees have consumed it. Look at the matter in this shape: Suppose you buy a colony of bees in the fall, paying \$6.00 for it. The seller lets it stand, and you may take it when you like. If you let it stand till spring and then take it away, it's all the same to him. He has the \$6.00, and you have the colony. But you may ask, "Why should he have more for his colonies in the spring?" There are two reasons. One is that in most cases there is some labor and trouble connected with preparing for winter and wintering. For that there should be some compensation, but not a very great deal. The principal difference in price comes from the loss in wintering. Suppose a man wants to sell you 10 colonies in the fall, and is willing to sell at \$6.00 each, he will sell the whole lot for \$60. If you wait till spring, and he loses 4 colonies in wintering, he

will sell you the remaining 6 colonies at \$10 each, and get the same amount as if you had bought in the fall at the fall price. Clearly that is the right thing (not taking into account for the present any compensation for the trouble of wintering) providing 4 out of 10 is the regular loss that he always suffers in wintering. The spring price should be enough higher than the fall price to pay for the trouble of wintering, and also for the loss in wintering, but as a matter of fact a successful winterer would feel rather ashamed to lose anything like 4 out of 10 of his colonies. But is it not an exceptional case when a difference of \$4.00 is made between fall and spring prices? or when as much as \$10 a colony is asked? Looking through the pages of the back numbers of the American Bee Journal, I find Doolittle's dismal old man standing up in the cold winds of March offering bees at precisely the same price he asked in the following September.

## A List of Ten Questions.

1. I have an extra queen that I wish to keep through the winter. What must I do with her to keep her?
2. I have a small colony of bees with a good queen that I can't use any other way. Will they go through the winter on three frames if fed well? Is sugar syrup all I need to give them, or will I have to give them something for pollen?
3. Where did the Carniolan bee come from?
4. Will an 8-frame hive well filled carry a colony through the winter?
5. Can I get a honey extractor that will take a frame 12x12 inches, inside measure?
6. If I run for extracted honey, will a large hive do as well as a two-story hive? If so, how large a hive, and how far apart, for the frames on the outside of the brood-chamber?
7. How large a bee-space ought there to be at the end and bottom of the frames?
8. A certain breeder advertised "Texas queens." What kind of bees are they?
9. What time of the year do bees store honey-dew? Or do they get any at all in this State?
10. When bees have honey and sugar syrup in the brood-chamber, which do they use first? VIRGINIA.

ANSWERS.—1. Of course you can't keep her without worker-bees with her. You can keep her in a nucleus of three or four frames, but a two-frame nucleus may do if it is in a hive with a stronger colony. Suppose you use ten-frame hives. Take a hive that has a colony that is in seven frames, or that can easily be crowded on seven frames, and have these seven frames on one side of the hive, and have on the other side your two-frame nucleus, with a division-board between them that fits so close that not a bee can get from one side to the other. The heat of the stronger colony will help keep the nucleus warm. The same plan will do with an eight-frame hive, only your principal colony must be crowded on five frames, unless you can have six and still have room for the division-board and the two frames of the nucleus. But it's a pretty strong colony that cannot be crowded on five combs at this time of year.

2. They may go through all right alone, but will do better to be in a hive with another colony, as mentioned in answer No. 1. Sugar is all they need for wintering, but they can rear no brood in spring without at least a little pollen.

3. From Carniola, a province in Austria not very far from northern Italy.

4. They have done so for me and for many others. But you must look out closer than with ten-frame hives to see that they have plenty of stores.

5. Yes, you can get an extractor for any size of frame you are likely to have.

6. The majority of those who run for extracted honey in this country think it is better to have more than one story.

7. At the end of frames  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch is enough, providing your frames hang perfectly true, but many have the space  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch. Between the bottom-bar and the floor the space may be  $\frac{3}{8}$  or half an inch, or more.

8. I suppose they are queens reared in Texas, just as queens you rear are Virginia queens.

9. There is no particular time, but not, I think, till after pretty hot weather. No doubt honey-dew is to be found in Virginia at times. Some years produce more than others.

10. Probably they use according to the place and the sealing rather than according to the kind. First that which is in the brood-nest, and if any is unsealed then that comes next. If there is none unsealed, and if it is warm enough for them to move freely to all parts of the hive, they will next bring into the cluster that which is in the outside combs.



### Stores for Winter—Keeping Down Increase.

1. I have 5 colonies of bees in box-hives, and find that they cannot have more than about 15 pounds of honey each to winter on, and at this date too late to do any feeding. I remember reading so often that bees are wintered with less stores in a cellar. Do you think it would be a good thing to put those into the cellar right under the house where I live? The cellar is kept clean the year around, altho in early spring there is water springing therein, but it runs out through a drain. The cellar is 24x26 feet, and 10 feet high, with three air-grates of glass, 8x10 inches, to open. Nothing will freeze in it in winter at any degree. How would it do to fix them away up from the cellar bottom, and have them curtained off with one of those air-grates in the curtained part, and whenever a warm day comes, when bees fly briskly, to take them out, each on its own stand, to have a flight just like the rest which I have nicely put up for winter on the summer stands? The way they are put up, people say they are kept too warm for winter, and ask if they don't consume too much honey.

2. Having 50 colonies of bees with not one sheet of brood foundation, and no empty comb more than what the other 50 are on, and I don't care to have one colony more than 50, how would you manage them next year at swarming-time? I thought I would ask you this in time, and then follow your good plan.

PENN.

ANSWERS.—1. Bees use less stores if properly cellared than out-doors, especially if they have frequent flights out-doors. They use up more stores through the winter in the South than they do with you in the good old Keystone State. It will probably be the wise thing for you to put those five colonies into the cellar, altho it may be better to winter out-doors strong colonies with plenty of stores.

The great thing is to keep the bees perfectly quiet in the cellar. From your description your cellar seems to be first-class. The bees must be kept perfectly dark. The air should be pure. If too warm or too cold they will be uneasy. The only way to tell how warm to keep the cellar is to watch the bees and see at what temperature they're most quiet. When you find what that temperature is, try to keep the cellar at that. You'll find it somewhere about 40° or 50°. Don't be troubled about the water. Bees have wintered finely where water ran through the cellar constantly. It will be all right to have them raised from the cellar bottom, but it will also be all right near the bottom.

Don't take them out for a flight on a warm day. It may look as if that was the right thing to do, but experience shows it isn't. They'll use more stores, and don't seem as quiet after the fly. Don't take them out till you take them out for good. And don't take them out at all till you think it's fairly settled weather. About the time soft maple blooms, but sometimes soft maple blooms before it's warm enough to take out the bees. My bees stand it all right to stay five months in the cellar. In your climate they'll not need to be kept in so long.

I don't think there's any danger of your bees being too warm on the summer stands, but, as I said before, they'll eat more if they fly out very often. Still, I'd like to live in a place where bees would fly out once or twice a month.

2. I don't know. Maybe I'd sell some of them and buy foundation for the rest. If I understand you, you want to limit the swarming to one from each colony. You can manage that part of it pretty well. When a swarm issues, hive it on the old stand, setting the old hive close beside it. A week later take the old hive away and set it in a new place. All the better if you do this at a time of day when the bees are in the height of a play spell. This will so reduce the number of bees in the old hive that they will generally give up all thought of swarming. The swarm will be strengthened by the returning bees, and will be the one for surplus. Of course, without foundation you'll have too much drone-comb, but you can help matters to some extent by cutting out some of the drone-comb and putting in its place patches of worker foundation. But this you can't do till the following spring when the outside combs are empty, altho of course you could cut out drone-comb, brood and all, if no honey was in the way.

You're wise to ask questions in advance instead of waiting till it's time to act, and then expecting an answer in print the next day.

**The McEvoy Foul Brood Treatment** is given in Dr. Howard's pamphlet on "Foul Brood; Its Natural History and Rational Treatment." It is the latest publication on the subject, and should be in the hands of every bee-keeper. Price, 25 cents; or clubbed with the Bee Journal for one year—both for \$1.10.

## BEEDOM BOILED DOWN.

**Marketing Honey.**—At a German bee-convention, H. Guehler, of Berlin, himself perhaps the largest dealer and middleman in Germany, advised that bee-keepers should dispense as far as possible with the services of middlemen, dealing directly with the consumer. Sell to customers at home, at the market of the next town, and in groceries. For retail, small glasses are preferable, holding  $\frac{1}{8}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 pound each, with elegant labels. Instructive articles in the weekly papers, and lectures upon the bee and its products will help.

**Box-Hives for the Common People.**—"Say what you will," says Lebrecht Wolff in Gravenhorst's Bienenzeitung, "the movable-comb hive will emphatically never be the right thing for the average bee-keeper. It demands too much knowledge and skill, too much attention." In his view it is all right for the masters, but the masters are few. Herr Wolff is by no means alone in this view, and many successful bee-keepers in Germany uses hives without movable frames. In this country, keeping bees in box-hives is hardly considered bee-keeping at all, and yet the inventor of movable combs, Father Langstroth, held that for the average farmer box-hives were best. Certainly if combs are never to be moved, and in many cases they never are, then they are better not to be movable.

**Bee-Poison.**—Joseph Langer has been investigating the poison of the honey-bee, sacrificing therefor the lives of 25,000 bees. The poison is clear as water, with a distinctly acid reaction, a bitter taste and an aromatic smell. Soluble in water. The acid reaction is due to the presence of formic acid, which, however, is not, as heretofore supposed, the poison proper, neither does it give the aromatic odor, which is very volatile. The poison proper is an organic base whose exact composition has not yet been ascertained. It is free from microbes, its presence preventing their growth. It withstands both heat and cold. A bee-sting applied to the eye of a dog after having been kept six weeks at the temperature of boiling water, produced precisely the same phenomena as the fresh poison.—Centralblatt.

**Packing Bees for Spring.**—Ersler, in Centralblatt, says that while advance has been made in the matter of packing bees for winter, we are much behind what we should be as to spring packing. An early examination, or spring feeding, makes it necessary to remove the packing, and it is then left removed at the very time when it is especially important that all the heat possible should be retained to keep up the heat for breeding. He emphasizes packing overhead as the most important. And that is in accord with the practice of C. F. Muth, who says no other packing is necessary, if only the bees are well protected overhead. No doubt Mr. Muth is correct for the latitude of Cincinnati, but further north those who winter bees out-doors will find benefit from protection of sides as well as top.

**Bee-Keeping—Farmers' Bulletin No. 59.**—This pamphlet of 32 pages, written by Frank Benton, assistant entomologist, and issued by the Department of Agriculture, does not pretend to be a full text-book upon bee-keeping, but is well adapted to fill its place as a farmers' bulletin. It gives elementary instruction such as can be of no benefit to one familiar with the ordinary text-books, but may be very serviceable to farmers and others who may have one or more colonies of bees without any knowledge of their care.

Particularly commendable are the temperate statements as to the profits of bee-keeping. Instead of painting the business with high colors, awakening expectations that must only end in disappointment, the reader is told that with good wintering and an average season, a moderate estimate for a fairly good locality would be 30 to 35 pounds of extracted honey or 20 pounds of comb honey per colony. The loose-fitting, suspended comb frame is recommended, no other frame being mentioned except the Quinby, altho it does not readily appear why a tyro in the business should not have the advantage of a frame that will promptly space itself at the right distance, instead of the loose-fitting frame which troubles the expert to space correctly. One is a little surprised to read that white clover honey is of a rich yellow color. But these are minor defects. As in other publications of the department, bold, clear type on good paper makes the page pleasant to the eye.

# The American Bee Journal

OLDEST BEE-PAPER IN AMERICA

GEORGE W. YORK,

Editor.

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## United States Bee-Keepers' Union.

Organized to advance the pursuit of Apiculture; to promote the interests of bee-keepers; to protect its members; to prevent the adulteration of honey; and to prosecute the dishonest honey-commission men.

MEMBERSHIP FEE—\$1.00 PER ANNUM.

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## Editorial Comments.

**Honey-Dealing Frauds** seem to be less abundant this fall than for several years past. It paid well to come down on them as hard as we did when they were flourishing, and thus drive them out of their swindling business. It will never be known just how much was thus saved to bee-keepers, by giving a warning note, and also by uprooting the fraudulent honey-commission fraternity.

So far as we are aware just now, there is not a thoroughly bad honey-dealing firm in Chicago. Of course, there are plenty that are bad in spots, or schemy in a small way, but as for there being any that compare with the notorious Horrie-Wheadon gang, we can hardly believe it.

But let us remind our readers that if they receive any letters from city firms soliciting honey shipments, and they bear the least evidence of being unworthy of patronage, just send such letters to us and we will investigate and report. We are just aching to go for some honey-dealing fraud again.

**Foul Brood in Canada.**—We have received the following letter, dated Nov. 3, from Mr. Wm. McEvoy, the well-known Foul Brood Inspector, of Ontario, Canada:

FRIEND YORK:—At this season of the year, when the bee-keepers begin fixing up their colonies for winter, many of them find dead brood in some of the hives. These late discoveries cause a very uneasy feeling, and particularly so when found in fine, large apiaries. Things are left at a stand-still then, until McEvoy comes, who has been sent for. Oh, my, how anxious these people are, and how strong they plead for me to come at once (when they write), no person could tell unless in my place. If it is not foul brood, they want to fix up at once; but if it is, what is best to be done is

the great consideration with them. I get to all places as soon as possible.

Things have greatly changed since I first began inspecting the apiaries of Ontario. Everywhere I go now I am well treated, and all the bee-keepers of the Province are good friends of mine.

Mrs. McEvoy and I expected to have been at the Buffalo convention, but, oh, how disappointed we were when the time came. I had to go to a locality where the disease was spreading very fast through foul-broody colonies that had been shipped into a neighborhood where many colonies were kept, and where the disease had never before been. Just before that, I received a letter from a good bee-keeper, saying that he had \$1,000 worth of bees, that one of his neighbors had a few colonies badly diseased with foul brood, and that the owner of these diseased colonies was setting out the cappings for the bees to clean up, which was going to ruin his fine apiary if I did not come at once, as the law did not give him the power to go on the man's ground and stop it. I had to go at once to that locality, and make things safe and do justice to all.

Yours truly,

Wm. McEvoy.

If every State and Province had as energetic an inspector of foul brood as Mr. McEvoy, it would not be long until the bee-keepers of our land would be pretty well rid of the disease. Mr. McEvoy is a great "bee-doctor," and Ontario may well be proud of his untiring efforts.

**Using Zinc Separators.**—On page 588 of the Bee Journal for Sept. 16, 1897, the "Question-Box" answers appears without any questions. The topic was, "Using Zinc Separators," and we do not wonder that Mr. Hasty had to laugh when he saw the string of answers to no questions at all. He referred to it thus, in the October Review:

What little things a laugh sometimes depends on. In the last American Bee Journal I laugh to see a string of the senators saying, "I don't know," "I don't know," "I don't know," just as the dog barks of a pleasant evening, at nothing at all. They think they are responding to a question; but the question isn't there. Got left out somehow.

Of course, the omission happened when making up that particular page of the Bee Journal in the printing-office. For the benefit of Mr. Hasty, and others, we here give the questions, and trust such a queer performance may not occur again:

QUERY 60.—1. Is there any harm in using zinc separators, especially when there is a good deal of the white oxide about them?

2. Is this poisonous to the bees?—D.

Now, turn back and read the replies again.

**Sections Without Bee-Spaces.**—Editor Root appears quite enthusiastic over the matter of using sections with no openings cut in either of the four sides. Cleated separators make openings unnecessary. Such separators were used eight or ten years ago by Oliver Foster, perhaps later by the late B. Taylor, and for years by Miles Morton. The cleated separator looks like a panel of fence. Instead of being all in one piece, three or more narrow pieces are used, of course of the same length as if the separator were all in one piece. These narrow strips cost less, and have the advantage that a space occurs between each two pieces, allowing communication for the bees. Cleats somewhere in the neighborhood of half an inch wide, and as long or longer than the width of the separator, are glued on the separator on each side, so as to come just at the places where the sides of the sections strike. It will readily be seen that if the cleat is thick enough there will be no need to cut away any part of the top or bottom bar of the section to make a passage for the bees. With cleats  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch thick the section will lack  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of being filled even full. That is, a straight edge laid across the face of the section would have a space of  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch between the comb and the straight edge or ruler. Of course, a bee can't get through a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch space, but the separator is made



enough narrower to make a larger space. In case the separators are used in section-holders, making the separators narrower does not hinder their being held at the right place, for the cleats are made long enough to rest where wanted—at least part of them. For use with these separators, the unfolded section is one straight piece of uniform width its entire length, and when folded there is no "naughty corner." One sweep of the knife scrapes all four edges on one side, and the narrower sections allow more to go in a case, saving one-fourth the cost of shipping-cases. The section with the comb coming within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the surface looks plumper and fuller than the ordinary section used with the ordinary separator, in which the comb comes within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the surface. The narrower section will cost less than the old width with scoring out at top and bottom. No change need be made in section-holders or T supers to make the new section and separator work all right.

**The Bee-Master** is an English monthly that has now reached its 4th number. Its chief end seems to be to show what a bad lot are British bee-keepers, especially T. W. Cowan (a free use being made of such words as "liar" and "blackguard"), and to boom the Punic bees. Notwithstanding the unique statement plainly made, "There is no Editor of the Bee-Master," it is edited with such vigor that one cannot help wishing it might be directed in a more useful channel. In one respect there is a refreshing originality and frankness that contrasts sharply with what has been the case with bee-periodicals on this side the water that have lived out their short spans and then succumbed. With them the story has always been that they were having unbounded encouragement, subscriptions were pouring in, and all that, when at that very time they were in *articulo mortis*—with not subscriptions enough to pay for the blank paper used. With open candor, the Bee-Master says it is a long way off from paying expenses, sample copies sent out still only bring in about 30 subscribers per 1,000, and that it is a question whether it can be kept up until subscriptions pay expenses. If it is ever to become self-supporting, there will probably be an elimination of formic acid.

**The Langstroth Monument Fund** has languished for some time, but it seems the Utah Bee-Keepers' Association, through its progressive president, Mr. E. S. Lovesy, took up the matter and secured the following subscriptions, amounting to \$5.00, with promises of more later on:

E. S. Lovesy, \$1.50; J. B. Fagg, \$1.00; Frederick Schach, \$1.00; John Bouck, \$1.00; T. B. Clark, 50 cents.

We have received 50 cents from E. E. Wheeler, of Connecticut, for the same purpose.

Up to this time we have turned over \$5.00 toward the Langstroth Monument Fund, and will be glad to acknowledge the subscriptions in the Bee Journal as fast as they are received. How many can we have by Jan. 1, 1898?

## The Weekly Budget.

MR. A. G. WILSON, of Vernon Co., Wis., wrote us Oct. 31:

"One or two days' more work will fix my 365 colonies ready for their five months' solitary confinement."

MR. E. S. LOVESY, President of the Utah Bee-Keepers' Association, writing Oct. 26, said:

"We have had a splendid honey-flow here this fall, and the bee-keepers that had their bees in good condition have reaped a bountiful harvest, and they are correspondingly happy. The 'Old Reliable' still comes to hand regularly. We congratulate you on the progressive interest of the American Bee Journal in behalf of bee-keepers and the bee-industry."

MR. W. P. KEYES, manager of The One-Piece Section Co., of Wisconsin, in renewing his subscription recently, said:

"We cannot do business without the American Bee Journal."

MR. JOHN H. MARTIN, of California, is reported, in *Gleanings* for Nov. 1, as being very sick. All will regret to learn this, and trust that the Rambler may soon be restored to health, and be able to resume his rambling as of yore.

MR. GEORGE WILBRECHT, of Fillmore Co., Minn., wrote us Oct. 22:

"I would not be without the Bee Journal if it cost \$2.00 a year in place of \$1.00, so I send the dollar for another year."

MR. J. N. LADENBURGER, of Hamilton Co., Ohio, gives his estimate of the Bee Journal as follows, when paying for 1898:

"I could not do without the American Bee Journal. It comes regularly every Thursday, at 10 o'clock."

MR. O. O. POPPLETON, of Dade Co., Fla., writing us Oct. 25, said:

"The past month has been the rainiest one I have ever known in Florida, and that is saying much. Bees are suffering severely, but I think I can carry mine through in fair condition until Dec. 1, when the honey-flow will begin."

"GRANDPA COOK" is what Prof. A. J. Cook has been for nearly a month now. Our congratulations are hereby extended. Writing us Nov. 1, the Professor said he had started for Chicago three days before, and got as far as Arizona, when he was called back. Too bad, for had he been permitted to continue his journey we certainly would have had him with us here at the Northwestern convention this week. And what a treat and help that would be!

MR. JEWELL TAYLOR, son of the late B. Taylor, of Fillmore Co., Minn., wrote Nov. 1:

"The honey crop was very light here the past season, but I am not ready to part with the 'Old Reliable.'"

We don't anticipate that very many are ready to part with the "Old Reliable" just yet. It has tried to stand by the interests of bee-keeping through failures and successes, and expects to be of more value to its readers as time goes on.

MR. S. J. BALDWIN, a bee-keeper and supply dealer of England, is again in this country. October 26 he wrote us as follows, from his New Jersey home:

"Ill-health and the prospects of benefits to be derived from another visit to this great and interesting country has induced me to come here again, and I am happy to say that my most sanguine expectations have been realized, as I am greatly improved in health already. I left Liverpool Sept. 8, and reached Philadelphia on the 18th. I expect to return to England just before or after Christmas."

MR. I. J. STRINGHAM, of New York, wrote us as follows Oct. 25:

"One of my customers in this city took five 28 one-pound section supers of honey (140 pounds) from his best colony, and averaged somewhere around 80 pounds to the colony from 14 colonies. Can Chicago beat that much? We know you people can always tell good stories about your city, so I suppose you can."

How about that, Chicago bee-keepers? Let's have a report from "Greater Chicago," now that "Greater New York" has been heard from.

DR. HOUSE'S YELLOWZONES.—We wish to direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of "Yellowzones," which appears on another page of this issue. Judging from the testimonials and the guarantee, we should say that the remedy is everything that is claimed for it. In fact, we have used Yellowzones ourselves, and simple justice compels us to say that we found them quite effective. We are personally acquainted with their manufacturer, and are assured by him that it contains no habit-provoking or dangerous drugs, but that it is a simple curative, of great power and undoubted value. Better try Yellowzones, and see for yourself.

# BEE-BOOKS

SENT POSTPAID BY

George W. York & Co.,  
Chicago, Ills.

**Bees and Honey**, or Management of an Apiary for Pleasure and Profit, by Thomas G. Newman.—This edition has been largely re-written, thoroughly revised, and is "fully up with the times" in all the improvements and inventions in this rapidly-developing pursuit, and presents the apiarist with everything that can aid in the successful management of an apiary, and at the same time produce the most honey in an attractive condition. It contains 250 pages, and 245 illustrations—is beautifully printed in the highest style of the art, and bound in cloth, gold-lettered. Price, \$1.00.

**Langstroth on the Honey-Bee**, revised by Dadant.—This classic in bee-culture, has been entirely re-written, and is fully illustrated. It treats of everything relating to bees and bee-keeping. No apiarian library is complete without this standard work by Rev. L. L. Langstroth—the Father of American Bee-Culture. It has 520 pages; bound in cloth. Price, \$1.25.

**Bee-Keepers' Guide**, or Manual of the Apiary, by Prof. A. J. Cook, of the Michigan Agricultural College.—This book is not only instructive and helpful as a guide in bee-keeping, but is interesting and thoroughly practical and scientific. It contains a full delineation of the anatomy and physiology of bees. 460 pages; bound in cloth and fully illustrated. Price, postpaid, \$1.25.

**Scientific Queen-Rearing**, as Practically Applied, by G. M. Doolittle.—A method by which the very best of Queen-Bees are reared in perfect accord with Nature's way. 176 pages, bound in cloth, and illustrated. Price, \$1.00.

**A B C of Bee-Culture**, by A. I. Root.—A cyclopedia of 400 pages, describing everything pertaining to the care of the honey-bees. It contains 300 engravings. It was written especially for beginners. Bound in cloth. Price, \$1.25.

**Advanced Bee-Culture**, Its Methods and Management, by W. Z. Hutchinson.—The author of this work is too well known to need further description of his book. He is a practical and entertaining writer. You should read his book. 90 pages, bound in paper, and illustrated. Price, 50 cts.

**Rational Bee-Keeping**, by Dr. John Dzierzon.—This is a translation of his latest German book on bee-culture. It has 350 pages; bound in paper covers, \$1.00.

**Bienen-Kultur**, by Thomas G. Newman.—This is a German translation of the principal portion of the book called **BEES OF HONEY**. 16 page pamphlet. Price, 40 cents.

**Convention Hand-Book**, for Bee-Keepers. Thomas G. Newman.—It contains the parliamentary law and rules of order for Bee-Conventions—also Constitution and By-Laws, with subjects for discussion, etc. Cloth, gold-lettered. Price, 25 cts.

**Thirty Years Among the Bees**, by Henry Alley.—Gives the results of over a quarter-century's experience in rearing queen-bees. Very latest work of the kind. Nearly 100 pages. Price, 50c.

**Practical Hints to Bee-Keepers**—by CHAS. F. MUTH. Also contains a Foul Brood Cure and How to Winter Bees. 40 p.; 10 cts.

**Why Eat Honey?**—This Leaflet is intended for FREE distribution, to create a Local Market. 100 copies, by mail, 30 cts.; 500 for \$1.25; 1000, \$2.00.

**How to Keep Honey** and preserve its richness and flavor. Price same as Why Eat Honey.

**Alsike Clover Leaflet**—Full directions for growing. 50 for 25 cts.; 100 for 40 cts.; 200, 70c.

**Apiary Register**, by Thos. G. Newman.—Devotes two pages to a colony. Leather binding. Price, for 50 colonies, \$1.00; for 100 colonies, \$1.25.

**Preparation of Honey for the Market**, including the production and care of comb and extracted honey. A chapter from **BEES AND HONEY**. Price, 10 cts.

**Bee-Pasturage a Necessity**.—This book suggests what and how to plant. It is a chapter from **BEES AND HONEY**. Price, 10 cts.

**The Hive I Use**, by G. M. Doolittle. It details his management of bees, and methods of producing comb honey. Price, 5 cents.

**Dr. Howard's Book on Foul Brood**.—Gives the McEvoy Treatment and reviews the experiments of others. Price, 25 cts.

**Silo and Silage**, by Prof. A. J. Cook.—It gives the method in operation at the Michigan Agricultural College. Price, 25 cts.

**Winter Problem in Bee-Keeping**, by G. R. Pierce. Result of 25 years' experience. 30 cts.

**Handling Bees**, by Chas. Dadant & Son.—A Chapter from Langstroth Revised. Price, 8 cts.

**History of Bee-Associations**, and Brief Report of the first 20 conventions. Price, 10 cts.

**Foul Brood Treatment**, by Prof. F. R. Cheshire.—Its Cause and Prevention. Price, 10 cts.

**Foul Brood**, by A. R. Kohnke.—Origin, Development and Cure. Price 10 cts.

**Bee-Keeping for Profit**, by Dr. G. L. Tinker.—Revised and enlarged. It details the author's "new system, or how to get the largest yields of comb or extracted honey." 80 p.; illustrated. 25c.

**Commercial Calculator**, by C. Ropp.—A ready Calculator, Business Arithmetic and Account-Book combined in one. Every farmer and business man should have it. No. 1, bound in water proof leatherette, calf finish. Price, 40 cts. No. 2 in fine artificial leather, with pocket, silicate slate, and account-book. Price, 60 cts.

**Green's Four Books**, by Chas. A. Green.—Devoted to, 1st, How We Made the Old Farm Pay; 2nd, Peach Culture; 3rd, How to Propagate Fruit-Plants, Vines and Trees; 4th, General Fruit Instructor. Nearly 120 pages. Fully illustrated. 25 cts.

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**Kendall's Horse-Book**.—35 pictures, showing positions of sick horses, and treats on all their diseases. English or German. Price, 25 cts.

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**Maple Sugar and the Sugar Bush**, by Prof. A. J. Cook.—Full instructions. Price, 35 cts.

**Grain Tables**, for casting up the price of grain, produce, hay, etc. Price, 25 cts.

**Capons and Caponizing**, by Dr. Sawyer, Fanny Field, and others.—Illustrated. All about caponizing fowls, and thus how to make the most money in poultry-raising. 64 pages. Price, 30 cts.

**Our Poultry Doctor**, or Health in the Poultry Yard and How to Cure Sick Fowls, by Fanny Field.—Everything about Poultry Diseases and their Cure. 64 pages. Price, 30 cts.

**Poultry for Market and Poultry for Profit**, by Fanny Field.—Tells everything about the Poultry Business. 64 pages. Price, 25 cts.

**Turkeys for Market and Turkeys for Profit**, by Fanny Field.—All about Turkey-Raising. 64 pages. Price, 25 cts.

**Rural Life**.—Bees, Poultry, Fruits, Vegetables, and Household Matters. 100 pages. 25 cts.

**Potato Culture**, by T. B. Terry.—It tells how to grow them profitably. Price, 40 cts.

**Hand-Book of Health**, by Dr. Foote.—Hints about eating, drinking, etc. Price, 25 cts.

**Bee-Keepers' Directory**, by H. Alley.—Latest methods in Queen-Rearing, etc. Price, 50c.

## Book Clubbing Offers.

(Read Carefully.)

The following clubbing prices include the American Bee Journal one year with each book named. Remember, that only ONE book can be taken in each case with the Bee Journal a year at the prices named. If more books are wanted, see postpaid prices given with the description of the books on this page. Following is the clubbing-list:

1. Langstroth on the Honey-Bee.....\$2.00
2. A B C of Bee-Culture.....2.00
3. Bee-Keepers' Guide.....1.75
4. Bees and Honey [Cloth bound].....1.65
5. Doolittle's Scientific Queen-Rearing.....1.75
6. Dr. Howard's Foul Brood Book.....1.10
7. Advanced Bee-Culture.....1.30
8. Bienen-Kultur [German].....1.20
9. Rational Bee-Keeping [Paper bound].....1.75
10. Thirty Years Among the Bees.....1.30
11. Bee-Keeping for Profit.....1.15
12. Convention Hand-Book.....1.15
13. Poultry for Market and Profit.....1.10
14. Turkeys for Market and Profit.....1.10
15. Capons and Caponizing.....1.10
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17. Green's Four Books.....1.15
18. Garden and Orchard.....1.15
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20. Commercial Calculator, No. 1.....1.25
21. Commercial Calculator, No. 2.....1.40
22. Kendall's Horse-Book.....1.10
23. Potato Culture.....1.20
24. Hand-Book of Health.....1.10
25. Maple Sugar and the Sugar Bush.....1.20
26. Silo and Silage.....1.10
27. Winter Problem in Bee-Keeping.....1.30
28. Apiary Register (for 50 colonies).....1.75
29. Apiary Register (for 100 colonies).....2.00
30. Bee-Keepers' Directory.....1.30

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Alsike Clover.....	.70	\$1.25	\$3.00	\$5.75
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Your orders are solicited.

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APIARY—Glen Cove, L. I.

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For all the **Good, Pure Yellow Beeswax** delivered to our office till further notice, we will pay 25 cents per pound, CASH; or 28 cents for whatever part is exchanged for the Bee Journal, Honey, Books or Seed, that we offer. If you want **cash, promptly**, for your Beeswax, send it on at once. Impure wax not taken at any price. Address as follows, very plainly,

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I have 50 kegs pure Basswood Honey, net 270 lbs. each, worth 6 cts. per lb. f. o. b. cars here. Sample will be sent on application.

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44A4t KICKAPOO, Vernon Co., Wis.

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## General Items.

### Bees in Fine Condition for Winter.

My 73 colonies of Italian bees are in the very best condition for wintering. I have made a 21-foot addition to my beecellar.

**S. C. SWANSON.**

Goodhue Co., Minn., Oct. 26.

### Honey a Failure in Quebec.

My bees did not give me enough surplus honey to pay my subscription to the American Bee Journal, although I hope they will have sufficient to feed themselves during the winter. Honey was a failure in the Province of Quebec the past season.

**ZIPH. BOYER.**

Quebec, Canada, Oct. 18.

### Small Hives for Wintering.

I am an advocate of small hives for cold climates, and would say to Mr. Wisconsin (see page 630) that if he has everything in good condition he need not be afraid to winter his bees in six-frame hives, for I have wintered very successfully in six-frame hives for four winters, even if Dr. Miller does say they will play out. A complete hive of the Danzenbaker pattern would be too expensive for general use, I think; but I will try them for 1898.

**D. N. RITCHIE.**

Franklin Co., Ohio.

### Report for the Past Season.

My summer's work, or my fall report, has not yet been sent in but I will try to do so now.

I started last spring with 43 colonies, increased to 65, and got about 1100 pounds of comb honey in 1 pound sections. I reared over 100 queens, requeened my entire apiary, except 4 colonies which were saved for a special purpose. In the spring I bought a breeder that was warranted to produce bees that would work on red clover the same as white. I had her safely introduced, and reared a number of as fine queens as I ever saw. Now, in order to improve my stock, I sent direct to Italy, last August, and bought one of their queens, of which I feel proud. She was caged, not in a Benton cage, but in a box 6x7, by 4 inches deep, having 3 small frames of comb and capt honey, and a water-bottle in it, with about 100 bees with the queen. They were sent by express, and were 18 days on their journey, and the queen was as lively as I ever received any that were on their journey but two days. Now if all goes well I will breed from the imported and rear my drones for mating purposes from the red clover strain, which I think will make a very desirable cross. My aim is to breed up a bee that is a leather color, and will winter on the summer stands, and work red clover more, and each year until I will have a perfect red clover bee.

I this year had a great deal more clover honey than buckwheat; as a general thing we get only buckwheat honey in this section, but white, red, and Alsike clover were very abundant this year, and our bees made good use of it. I do not want to say that we had not the clovers other years to secure a crop of clover honey, but we let our bees swarm,

## BEES FOR SALE.

About 90 Colonies of Italians. Any one wanting to start an apiary cannot do better than to call on Dr. E. Gallup, Santa Ana, Calif., and examine the Bees before purchasing elsewhere. Double sets of Combs in Langstroth-Simplicity Hives, and warranted a superior lot of Bees for business. Correspondence solicited.

**Dr. E. GALLUP.**

SANTA ANA, Orange Co., CAL.

Please mention Bee Journal when writing.



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That covers the whole Apicultural Field more completely than any other published, send \$1.25 to Prof. A. J. Cook, Claremont, Calif., for his

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and would hive them, and by the time they were again ready for boxes the clovers were past, consequently we got no clover honey.

Last spring I clipped all my queens, and in swarming I would cage the queen, return the swarm, in 6 or 7 days cut out all cells but one, if the bees were good, and if not I would destroy all and give them one of my breeder cells; in that way I requeened, kept down swarming, or rather increase of colonies, and secured a good crop of white honey, and increased my apiary between clover and buckwheat. However, I sell buckwheat honey faster than clover honey, and could get a cent or two more a pound for it, but I sell all alike, and in the home market people come for it, some 16 miles—no trouble to sell all I can produce.

In queen-rearing I had no trouble to get good cells. In one instance I had a colony whose queen was a Carniolan mated to an Italian drone, and not wishing to rear any of those black drones, and have them mate with my Italian virgin, I removed the queen, gave them a cell, which they destroyed, and began to rear theirs by the dozen. I let them go till 8 days after I removed their queen, then I went for them, took frame after frame, shook off all the bees, and destroyed every cell; gave them a frame built about half way down, and containing eggs just hatching into larvae, from my breeder. The result was, in due time I had 45 fully developed cells—more than I could make use of. I reared queens on a small scale for 3 years, and have kept bees for 5 years, but this year I looked up my old American Bee Journals, and found Dr. Gallup's method of introducing queens with tobacco smoke; I can introduce when robbers are bad and no honey coming in, by removing the queen in the evening, or caging at any time of the day, and lay the cage with the queen on top of frames to keep the colony quiet, for if the queen is removed the bees will run all over the hive and hunt for their queen, and then is the time robbers will attack them. In the evening, after bees have stopped flying, open the hive, remove the queen, blow in on top of the frames a few whiffs of good, strong tobacco-smoke, so it gets between each comb, then let your new queen run in on top of the frames; cover up and close the hive, and give a few good puffs in at the entrance. Hybrids need a double dose and till morning all will be well and the new queen is introduced. To cage the queen in the daytime, when robbers are bad, carry the colony into a building. I have introduced the first of October with success with this method. Many thanks to Dr. Gallup for the method.

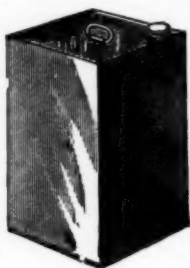
PAUL WHITEHEAD.

Luzerne Co., Pa. Oct. 22.

#### Been Through About All.

I am glad of one thing, that is, that Mr. Bevins has broken his 20-year silence. With Father Langstroth dead, Dr. Gallup growing old, Bevins dumb for 20 years, and a pupil hunting the columns of the "Old Reliable" for some thing readable, and finding such contemptible rot about bee-spaces, what are we to look for next?

I have been through about every disaster in bee-keeping that there is for me except foul brood. I got my bees here in Florida all ready to give me a ton of



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We can furnish **White Alfalfa** Extracted Honey, in 60-pound tin cans, on board cars in Chicago, at these prices: 1 can, in a case, 7 cents per pound; 2 cans in one case, 6½ cents; 4 cans (2 cases) or more, 6¼ cents. The Cash must accompany each order.

A sample of the honey will be mailed to an intending purchaser, for 8 cents, to cover postage, packing, etc. We guarantee purity.

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Operates two sawmills that cut, annually, eight million feet of lumber, thus securing the best lumber at the lowest price for the manufacture of

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that there is in the State. The material is cut from patterns, by machinery, and is absolutely accurate. For Sections, the **clearest and whitest Basswood** is used, and they are polished on both sides. Nearness to Pine and Basswood forests, and possession of mills and factory equipment with best machinery, all combine to enable this firm to furnish the

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7Att

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#### Works Like a Charm.

The Monette Queen-Clipping Device WORKS LIKE A CHARM. With it I have clipped 30 queens, all in one day, when examining my bees. WM. STOLLEY, Grand Island, Nebr.

#### Couldn't Do Without It.

I have clipped 19 queens, and must say the Monette Queen-Clipping Device is by far the best invention ever made, and will be welcome to many bee-keepers as it was to me. I could not do without one now.

DR. GEO. LACKE, Newburgh, Ind.

PLEASE READ THIS OFFER TO PRESENT SUBSCRIBERS:

Send us just one new name for the American Bee Journal a year (with \$1.00), and we will mail you the Queen-Clipping Device FREE of charge. Or, the Queen-Clipping Device will be sent postpaid for 30 cts. But why not get it as a Premium by the above offer? You can't earn 30 cts. any easier. Almost every bee-keeper will want this Device.

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may not be sick, but you  
**Will Like**  
to read these kind words regarding  
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and will say the same  
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Two Editors.

GEO. W. YORK, of *Am. Bee Jn'l*, Chicago, says:—

We are not in the habit of giving a personal recommendation of the value of any medicine, but in this case we make an exception. We believe that Dr. House sends out a "Yellow" remedy that will make Housefuls of happy people in torrid or frigid "Zones."

In a private letter Editor York also says:—Yes, sir; nine reports have come to us about your medicine . . . I shouldn't hesitate to advertise Yellowzones—in fact should feel that I was helping along a good thing.

### Wants 'em Quick!

I shall telegraph you this morning for Yellowzones, and you'll find pay enclosed. Mrs. M. has the Grip, and they have helped her materially.

Dr. A. B. MASON,  
Toledo, O.

My wife also finds them the best thing for headache she has ever used. Numbers of others, to whom we have given samples, have had a like experience. One of our friends who has always suffered from headache when riding on the cars, on a recent trip of about 200 miles, entirely escaped her usual sickness by the use of a "zone or two." Several others have had almost instant and complete relief from Neuralgia. It is surely a remarkable remedy.

I truly and cheerfully testify to the worth of Yellowzones. We have used them for Headache, Earache, Rheumatism and Nervousness, and find them convenient, quick and sure.

Make whatever use you like of these words of commendation.  
Rev. F. L. FORBES,  
Principal Pendleton Academy,  
Pendleton, Oregon.

Enclosed find \$5.00 for Yellowzones. Am well pleased with them. The young man's hand, that was paralyzed is about well. Stopped other medicine and gave Yellowzones.

W. B. COLLINS,  
Blackwater, Mo.

My Husband, who is using them for Sciatica, says they are the best remedy he ever saw.  
Mrs. A. B. ALEXANDER,  
Brownwood, Tex.

### Our Agents,

Both ladies and gentlemen, are very enthusiastic, and are making splendid sales. One good agent needed in every community, and if you want business, and mean business, I shall be glad to correspond with you.

### Safe, Sure and Speedy.

DEAR DR. HOUSE:—

We have used your Yellowzones in our family for some time. Have found them a safe, sure and speedy remedy for all headaches, colds, rheumatism and neuralgia. We heartily recommend them to any who are troubled with pains or fevers. Very sincerely yours,

Rev. JAMES TOMPKINS, D. D., Chicago,  
Supt. Illinois Missionary Society.

Rev. G. HOLZAPFEL, Cleona, Pa.  
Editor of *The Pulpit*  
and *Preacher's Helper*.

One Yellowzone always knocks a headache "sky-high."

When preachers know the real worth of your preparation you ought to enjoy a good trade direct from them.

### Enthusiastic!

I want to send you my enthusiastic commendation of Yellowzones. I have suffered all my life from headaches. For the last 10 or 12 years they have come every 2 or 3 weeks, and often every week, and so severe that I would have to drop my work and go to bed for a day or two. I have had some headache since beginning the "zones, but it has been light, and I have not had to loose a day from my work in the 4 months.

My wife also finds them the best thing for headache she has ever used. Numbers of others, to whom we have given samples, have had a like experience. One of our friends who has always suffered from headache when riding on the cars, on a recent trip of about 200 miles, entirely escaped her usual sickness by the use of a "zone or two." Several others have had almost instant and complete relief from Neuralgia. It is surely a remarkable remedy.

Rev. H. C. LEACH, Hancock, N. Y.

### Your Own Testimony

... will be similar.

To make Yellowzones of even greater service we add to each box the unique feature of a capsule of Zonets, purely vegetable, which we believe are unequalled in their delightful action upon liver and bowels. They intensify the action of Yellowzones when there is torpid liver, sluggish bowels or constipation. As a laxative take 1 Zone 3 or 4 times a day for stronger action 4 to 6 at one dose. For Diarrhea dissolve 1 Zone in 10 teaspoonfuls of hot water, and take ½ teaspoonful every hour.

### Zonets.

Zonets Alone, 35 Cents,  
per 100.

### I Guarantee

every box to give you satisfaction, or money refunded upon request.

### The Best Testimony

is the fact that up to the present writing no customer has ever expressed dissatisfaction, or asked for return of money—and that repeated orders constantly come from former customers, and sales are rapidly increasing.

If you keep but one Remedy in the house it should be Yellowzones.  
They will please you beyond your expectation.

orange honey to 20 colonies, only to wake up and find the trees frozen down, and the bloom dead. I have taken 5 colonies from Florida to New Hampshire in a hand satchel, built them up through the summer, but thought my feathers would not be out and plumed fit to crow until I had wintered them. In the spring I had lots of nice empty comb, but no bees. Well, I got my empty combs all covered last summer, and just as I was figuring how much sugar I would have to feed to get them filled for winter, behold they were all filled full, and the queens crowded out, the fall flow not over, and no extractor! I packed up my bees and rusht down here to Florida, got together the scattered remnants of my apiary during the fall flow here, and now I find the bottom has been knocked out of the price of honey.

I won't take any more space now, for

I want to hear from Mr. Brown, Florida's migratory bee-keeper.

E. B. WHIPPLE.

Orange Co., Fla., Oct. 30.

### Wired Frames and Buckled Combs.

In using wired frames and full sheets or half sheets of foundation to get straight combs and avoid them buckling, wire lengthwise, take out all the slack, when foundation is attached to the top-bar, make it hang close to the wires, but by no means imbed the wire in the foundation, as I find it wrong; as the bees draw the foundation out the wire is in place, and takes a bearing at proper time. Have the hive level and everything will go all right. I cut my foundation ¾ short at the ends and bottom, and have no trouble. This is my

practice, and I have frames 10 inches deep under the top-bar, Langstroth length, as straight as a shingle. I don't have them any other way, and the above is the way I get them so.

Bees have done well here this season, better than for several years. We are bothered in the fall with bitter-weed—a good honey-producer, but it is no good. It grows on out land, about 14 inches high with yellow blossoms. Bees work on it from August 1 till now. Cows eat it, and the milk is too bitter to drink.

H. RISHER.

Ouachita Co., La., Oct. 25.

### Experience With Bees.

In the spring of 1896 I bought 8 colonies of black bees in common box-hives. I gave a friend 4 of them to help me

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This 15th and latest edition of Prof. Cook's magnificent book of 460 pages, in neat and substantial cloth binding, we propose to give away to our present subscribers, for the work of getting new subscribers for the American Bee Journal.


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transfer the 4 others to Simplicity 10-frame hives. I increase them to 14 colonies the same year, and gave them Italian queens, 3 and 5 banders. I obtained no surplus honey, in fact 10 of the colonies I had to feed granulated sugar. I wintered them all right. In the spring of 1897 I had 12 good colonies, and 2 drone-laying queens. The queens I killed and gave them each frames of eggs and brood, from which they soon had queens.

This season I have increase from 14 colonies to 41. All are now in fine condition for winter. I have had only one swarm hived in an empty hive. I made the increase by dividing.

I have all my queens clipped after the bridal trip. I had one colony divided 3 times, and then got 56 pounds of surplus honey from it. I used full sheets of foundation in all my hives the past season in the brood-chamber.

I have something to say about 3 and 5 banded bees. I did not have to feed a single colony of 3 banded bees this year nor last. I have taken 300 or 400 pounds of surplus honey this season, and not a drop of surplus has been stored by the 5-banders.

T. J. BAXTER.

Craven Co., N. C., Oct. 25.

## Figwort—Poor Season.

Since seeing the picture of the Simpson honey-plant in the American Bee Journal, I have noticed a weed that grows in the cornfields and along the roads which very much resembles it. I enclose parts of the plants and would like to know if it is the same. [It has every appearance of being the same thing.—Ed.]

This has been a poor season with us. It was so rainy during the white clover and Alsike honey-flow that the bees could gather but little, and that was of poor quality. The fall flow was light, but of good quality.

I increase from 13 colonies to 21, and took 550 pounds of honey, which was better than my neighbor did. This is my third year with bees. I started with but 2 colonies, each of which swarmed but once the first year, and one of the

swarms skipt, and then one of the old ones died the first winter. I think I have done pretty well.

I will not say that I could not get along without the Bee Journal, but I will say that I could not afford to be without it. HERMAN D. STEPHAN.

Wabasha Co., Minn., Nov. 1.

## Stored Lots of Nectar—Poultry Doctor.

My bees stored lots of the luscious nectar in the past season, and I am afraid my home market will get a little weak before I get through with my crop, unless I can work it up some with honey leaflets.

Thanks for the book "Our Poultry Doctor" you sent me last spring. My fancy poultry has, every spring, about June, been plagued with diarrhea, and many of them die, and nothing that I could find around here would either cure or prevent. But "Our Poultry Doctor" saved every chick. It is a dandy—worth its weight in gold. ELISHA CAREY.

Bucks Co., Pa.

## Has the Figwort Honey-Plant.

I was reading G. W. W.'s description of figwort the other day, and while walking through the hills to-day I found several of the plants. It is a wonder I did not find them in the summer when they were in full bloom, but I think my bees found them as they are about ¼ mile from my hives. Some of the plants are one foot tall, and loaded down with seed-pods, and altho we have had three good frosts there are a few blossoms there yet. Some of the stalks measure ½ inch, and are growing among the rocks where it looks as if nothing would grow.

R. BENTLEY.

Pike Co., Mo., Nov. 1.

## Results of the Season.

"The harvest is past, the summer is ended," and my "honey-tank attachment" is not filled. My record is 9 colonies, spring count (one queenless, with laying workers), increase to 16 by natural swarming, with clipped queens, and I

have taken off 70 pounds of comb honey, which is not half enough for my "home market." I have two light colonies and shall unite them. The rest are strong in bees, with plenty of stores for winter. It is raining again to-day, and we hope to see the ground well soaked this fall, and look for a better year in 1898.

A. B. GINNER.

Cass Co., Nebr., Oct. 16.

## Bees Didn't Do Well.

Our bees have not done very well this season. Basswood bloom was all killed by a late frost, and they have not worked much on white clover. We lost one colony by their becoming queenless. I like the Bee Journal very much, and hope I shall be able to take it another year. MRS. SOPHIA J. TUTTLE.

Blue Earth Co., Minn., Oct. 23.

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# HONEY and BEESWAX

## MARKET QUOTATIONS.

**Chicago, Ill., Oct. 19.**—Fancy white 11 to 12c. No. 1, 10c.; fancy amber, 8 to 9c.; No. 1, 7c.; fancy dark, 8c.; No. 1, 7c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c.; dark, 4c. Beeswax, 26 to 27c.

There is a fair trade in honey, despite the amount that is being peddled about the city by parties who are coming in with it, and who take lower figures than quoted, as a rule. This however is customary when local yield is large.

**Cincinnati, Ohio, Oct. 19.**—Fancy white, 11 to 12c.; No. 1, 10 to 11c.; No. 1 amber, 8 to 10c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c.; dark, 3½ to 4c. Beeswax, 20 to 25c.

Demand for honey is very slow, owing to warm weather and an abundance of fruit on our markets. Demand is good for beeswax.

**Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 19.**—Fancy white, 11 to 12c.; No. 1, 9 to 10c.; fancy amber, 9 to 10c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c. Beeswax, 25c.

Demand for fancy white comb honey and fancy white extracted is exceptionally good, while there is almost no demand for dark or amber comb or extracted honey.

**Detroit, Mich., Oct. 20.**—Fancy white, 11 to 12c.; No. 1, 10 to 11c.; fancy amber, 9 to 10c.; No. 1, 8 to 9c.; fancy dark, 8 to 9c. Extracted, white, 5 to 5½c.; amber, 5c.; dark, 4c. Beeswax, 25 to 26c.

Honey is selling fairly well, with supply up to the demand.

**Milwaukee, Wis., Oct. 19.**—Fancy white, 12 to 13c.; No. 1, 11 to 12c.; fancy amber, 8 to 10c. Extracted, white, 5½ to 6c.; amber, 4 to 5c.; dark, 4 to 4 1-2c. Beeswax, 26 to 27c.

This market for honey is in a very fair condition, and the consuming capacity is being enlarged. The supply is very fair, although we think there will be room enough for further shipments. The general quality of the comb honey so far is an improvement over last season, which fact we are pleased to note, and hope it will continue, more and more.

**Cleveland, Ohio, Oct. 19.**—Fancy white, 12½ to 13c.; No. 1, 11 to 12c.; fancy amber, 9 to 10c.; No. 1, 8c.; fancy dark, 7c.; No. 1, 6c. Extracted, white, 6 to 6½c.; amber, 5 to 5½c. Beeswax, 28 to 30c.

The demand for honey is increasing, and we believe it will continue as the weather gets colder. We would advise shipping white honey, but dark is not moving sufficiently to encourage shipments.

**Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 5.**—Fancy white is moving briskly at 11c., stray sales at 12c., and good to choice stock mostly at 10c.; buckwheat and dark honey ranges from 8 to 6c., as to actual quality. The demand is excellent for all grades of honey. Extracted ranges from 6 to 4c., with moderate sales. Beeswax is very scarce, and strictly pure sells quickly at 27 to 28c.; adulterated, etc., proportionately lower.

Now is the time to market honey, rather than wait longer.

**New York, N. Y., Oct. 20.**—Fancy white, 12c.; No. 1, 10 to 11c.; fancy amber, 9 to 10c.; No. 1, 9c.; fancy dark, 8½ to 9c.; No. 1, 8 to 8½c. Extracted, white, 5 to 5½c.; amber, 4½ to 5c.; dark, 4c. Beeswax, 26 to 27c.

During the past two weeks the market has not been so active, probably on account of the warm weather. When cooler weather sets in to stay, we expect a more active demand again. Southern in barrels is in good demand at 50c. per gallon. Beeswax in good demand.

**Minneapolis, Minn., Oct. 19.**—Fancy white, 10½ to 11½c.; fancy amber, 9½ to 10c. Extracted, white, 5½ to 5¾c.

The market could stand more goods, if desirable quality. Fair demand for all grades, but fancy meets with ready sale. Would advise shipping now.

**Kansas City, Mo., Oct. 20.**—Fancy white, 12c.; No. 1, 10 to 11c.; No. 1 amber, 8 to 10c.; Extracted, white, 5½ to 6c.; amber, 5c.; dark, 4c. Beeswax, 22 to 24c.

Receipts of comb honey are large; extracted is light.

**Philadelphia, Pa., Oct. 23.**—Fancy white, 13 to 14c.; No. 1, 12c.; fancy amber, 10c.; No. 1, 9c.; fancy dark, 8c.; No. 1, 7c. Extracted, white, 5 to 6c.; amber, 5c.; dark, 4 to 4½c. Beeswax, 28 to 27c.

Honey is moving very lively; our market uses more now than any time during the year. Beeswax in good demand; very light supply.

**Boston, Mass., Oct. 22.**—Fancy white, 13c.; No. 1, 11 to 12c.; fancy amber, 10c. Extracted, white, 6 to 7c.; amber, 5 to 5½c. Beeswax, 26c.

While the demand is fair, it is not as good as it should be at this season; but with cold weather we look to see a better demand.

**St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 21.**—Fancy white, 11 to 12c.; amber, 9 to 10c.; dark, 7 to 8c. Extracted, white, 5½ to 6c.; light amber, 4½ to 5c.; amber, 4 to 4½c. Beeswax, choice yellow, 26c.; prime, 25 to 25½c.; dark, half price.

**San Francisco, Calif., Oct. 27.**—White comb, 1-lb., 7½ to 9½c.; amber, 4 to 6c. Extracted, white, 4½ to 4¾c.; light amber, 3½ to 3¾c.; dark, 3 to 3½c. Beeswax, fair to choice, 22 to 24c.

There is a tolerably firm market for choice to select water white, both comb and extracted, with not much of the same offering. In a small way on local account higher rates than are quotable are realized. Dark grades fail to receive any special attention, despite the fact that such are obtainable at low figures. There is no lack of demand for beeswax, and not much offering. At the same time, wholesale buyers refuse to operate at any advance on previous rates.

## Question - Box.

In the multitude of counsellors there is safety.—Prov. 11-14.

## Reasons for Using Comb Foundation Except for Straight Combs.

**Query 62.**—Are there any reasonable reasons for using comb foundation, except to secure straight combs?

If there are no such reasons, the new Michigan convention no-sidewall 14-feet-to-the-pound foundation will become the standard, as one pound of it will fill from 60 to 100 more sections and be less artificial.—*SUBSCRIBER.*

**Mrs. L. Harrison**—I know of none.

**E. France**—I don't know, as I am not a comb-honey man.

**Prof. A. J. Cook**—Yes. Economy, and full frames of comb.

**Wm. McEvoy**—Yes, to secure more better-filled sections.

**Jas. A. Stone**—No, unless you wish to get comb honey for exhibit.

**W. G. Larrabee**—Yes. It saves work for the bees. But perhaps the no-sidewall foundation will do as much.

**J. M. Hambaugh**—Yes, in the brood-chamber; but your foot-note presumes to answer the straight-comb enigma in sections.

**Emerson T. Abbott**—Yes; it saves the time of the bees in secreting the wax, and the amount of honey it is necessary to consume in order to produce the same.

**Dr. C. C. Miller**—Yes, there are other reasons, but they would perhaps apply equally to the no-sidewall. But that doesn't settle whether it will become standard.

**G. M. Doolittle**—If the bees accept it as readily, if it stays in place as well, and has as nice an appearance in the finished product, the new Michigan may prove a saving.

**R. L. Taylor**—Yes, there are several other good reasons, as the better fastening of the comb in the section, the more rapid working of it, etc. Your conclusions are perhaps too hasty, anyway.

**G. W. Demaree**—I think there is. Our honey seasons—rather, "honey flows"—are often so short that a colony of bees

has scarcely time to build and complete a single set of ten combs while the honey-flow lasts. Under these circumstances I have found comb foundation a great help.

**Dr. J. P. H. Brown**—Yes, sir; more "reasonable reasons." A great one—the saving of honey to the bees in not having to form or excrete the bulk of wax for the comb. All the sidewall wax will be utilized.

**C. H. Dibbern**—Why, yes, if used in brood-frames, one great object is to secure nearly all worker-comb. This could not be secured if there were no sidewalls. For sections, this new Michigan article may be all right.

**Rev. M. Mahin**—The principal advantage in using comb foundation consists in getting straight combs without the use of separators. There is also some advantage in getting an early start in the sections. I think that bees will begin work sooner in sections partly or wholly filled with foundation, than where no foundation is used.

**J. A. Green**—Yes. Bees start work in sections better when the honey-flow is light, fill the sections better, and finish them sooner. Without foundation they will often build drone-comb, which does not look as well as worker. I see no especial advantage, but some serious disadvantages, in doing away with sidewalls.

**Eugene Secor**—I do not understand the drift of this question. I use foundation for three reasons, whether reasonable or not: 1st, to secure straight combs—but that depends more upon separators than on foundation. 2nd, to secure even combs. 3rd, to secure combs well attach to the wood on all sides. Full sheets secure conditions mentioned in 2 and 3.

**J. E. Pond**—In my opinion there are many reasons other than the one stated, for using foundation; but the one reason that it does produce straight combs is to me sufficient. We do not wish drone-comb to any extent in the brood-chamber (at least I don't). That is one reason. The honey supply is greater with the liberal use of foundation; that is another. I might amplify, but I answer a plain question in a plain way.

**A. F. Brown**—The use of comb foundation aside from the mere securing of straight combs has many advantages. In many instances it means the success or failure to secure a crop. I have never seen or tried the "no-sidewall" foundation. The regular make, 10 or 12 square feet to the pound, suits me. I believe in the sidewalls, and I want them. If they were made 1/16 inch deep it would suit me better; over a sixteenth inch deep I hardly think practical.

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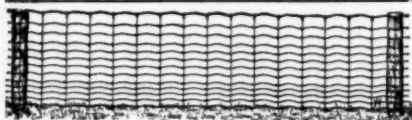
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 more lasting memento could a mother give to a son, a wife to a husband, a sister to a brother,  
 a lady to a gentleman, or vice versa, a son to a mother, a husband to a wife, a brother to a sister  
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